

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017 AT 1:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**MAYOR:** Tonita Gurulé-Girón

**COUNCILORS:** David L. Romero  
Barbara A. Casey  
Vincent Howell  
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ann Marie Gallegos, Interim City Manager  
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk  
David Silva, Acting City Attorney  
Christopher Lopez, Interim Chief of Police

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Councilor Barbara Casey asked for a moment of silence to thank our creator for getting us through 2017 and to continue to function at maximum potential for 2018 on behalf of the citizens of Las Vegas.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Interim City Manager Ann Marie Gallegos advised amending the agenda by adding Item #1 as approval/disapproval of resolution #17-48 amending resolution #16-09 authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to sign an amendment to the February 29, 2016 agreement for the purchase and sale of a storage easement and bulk water in Storrie Reservoir.

Councilor Casey made a motion to amend the agenda adding Item #1 amending resolution #17-48, as read by Interim City Manager. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Gurulé-Girón asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised that the motion carried.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Leroy Lujan spoke about the community and the drop in population. Mr. Lujan advised he was aware of the building blocks and fundamentals it takes to start a project and advised that the foundation of this project was the sustainability of life and the possibility of growth and the foundation is water. Mr. Lujan advised the two dams have about 500 acre feet of water in storage for the City of Las Vegas to use. Mr. Lujan mentioned in Resolution #17-48, it initially stated 2300 acre feet of storage in the Storrie Reservoir which would be tremendous and beneficial to Las Vegas for growth. He advised there was no snow and that the runoff would probably be the worst we've ever seen and that we absolutely need this water to sustain life in Las Vegas and for the City to continue to grow.

### **Discussion Items**

1. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution #17-48 amending Resolution No. 16-09 and authorizing the Mayor and the City Manager to sign an amendment to the February 29, 2016 agreement for the purchase and sale of a storage easement and bulk water in storrie reservoir.

Utilities Director Maria Gilvarry spoke about the amendment of Resolution 17-48, amending a previous resolution from a couple years ago.

Water Rights Attorney Pete Domenici spoke about the contracted purchase of bulk water which has been done and a contracted purchase of storage rights in Storrie Reservoir for 2300 acre feet for \$12 million. Water Rights Attorney Domenici advised they were tasked with due diligence on behalf of the Council and staff to look at the arrangement and evaluate the usefulness and affordability of that arrangement and the potential to renegotiate the agreement based on that analysis.

Water Rights Attorney Domenici advised the analysis included a financial analysis from Paul Cassidy, who advised that the City could not afford \$12 million of storage resulting in the use of all bond capacity, meaning high priority projects would have to wait and possibly lose \$50 million in projects .

Water Rights Attorney Domenici advised one way to deal with surface water flows was by storing water when it is available and you have it when it is not available. He advised that storage was an essential element for sustainability for the community, an essential element for reliability for water utilities and was a fundamental necessity to have adequate storage but not excess storage, he added that the best amount of storage that can be obtained was 800 acre feet of storage.

Water Rights Attorney Domenici advised they combined financial and hydrological analysis to determine a very good result of what had been a long standing issue for the City of Las Vegas. Water Rights Attorney Domenici advised that modifying the contract would reduce the price from \$12 million to \$4 million and would reduce the amount of storage from 2300 to 800 acre feet. He stated they would also continue to process the permit that had been pending and had moved through the approval process with the State Engineer. Water Rights Attorney stated that it would allow the City to have an authorized permit with the State Engineer to utilize the 800 acre feet perpetually. Water Rights Attorney Pete Domenici advised that percentages went down due to reducing the storage to what the hydrologist recommended.

Councilor Howell asked if there was a decision made from Storrie Lake.

Water Rights Attorney Domenici advised he had a written acceptance from Storrie Lake that the terms described were acceptable and once the resolution was approved they would have a binding agreement with Storrie Lake.

Councilor Howell advised if they would see growth of the community that they would not go over the 800 acre feet due to it being more costly.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve Resolution No. 17-48 amending Resolution No. 16-09 and authorizing the Mayor and the City Manager to sign an amendment to the February 29, 2016 agreement for the purchase and sale of a storage easement and bulk water in Storrie reservoir. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Gurulé-Girón asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried

2. Approval/Disapproval of Amendment to Agreement for the Purchase and Sale of a Storage Easement and Bulk Water in Storrie Reservoir.

Councilor Casey made a motion of approval of amendment to agreement for the purchase and sale of a storage easement and bulk water in Storrie Reservoir. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Gurulé-Girón asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David L. Romero	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Interim City Manager Ann Marie Gallegos advised there was no need to go into executive session.

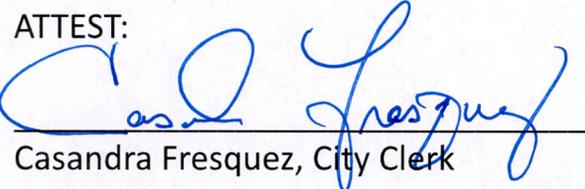
**ADJOURN**

Councilor Casey made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Ulibarri, Jr. seconded the motion. Mayor Gurulé-Girón asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised that the motion carried.

  
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Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón

ATTEST:  
  
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Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk